



COCONINO
SHERIFF'S
OFFICE



Dedication of the Detention Facility Hogan

To fulfill our dedication to providing for the health and well-being of inmates in the Coconino County Detention Facility, the Sheriff's Office is committed to providing for special spiritual needs for people of all faith groups.

On Saturday, August 23rd, a ribbon cutting ceremony and blessing was held at the recently completed Hogan at the Detention Facility. This project began in May of 2007 and through funding of Jail Enhancement and Inmate Welfare Funds has now been completed.

The Hogan will provide inmates with a place to hold spiritual ceremonies and other special programs. It is a place for Native Americans to reconnect with their roots, their community, and their families. While it is a traditional structure of the Dine people, non Native Americans also will have the opportunity to use the structure for special programs.

Medicine Man Norris Nez gave the blessing of the Hogan, while Louise Yellowman translated and explained much of the ceremony. In Native American culture, the Navajo House Blessing Ceremony is called *hooghan da ashdlisigil* in the Navajo language and is performed to bless a newly constructed dwelling or in more recent times, one that is to be re-inhabited.



Medicine Man Norris Nez outside of the Hogan.

The blessing, as it was given to the Earth Surface People by the Holy People, is used to promote peace, harmony, good luck, and general well-being for its inhabitants. The Ceremony also prevents general misfortune, hardship, wind and fire destruction, illness, bad dreams, visitations from ghosts and evil spirits, and protection from evil.



Medicine Man Norris Nez, left, Louise Yellowman, center, and Commander Kurt Braatz, right.

Supai Canyon Successfully Evacuated

On Saturday, August 16, 2008, in the late afternoon and evening, the Northern Arizona high country received heavy rainfall that resulted in partial flooding of Supai Canyon. Supai Canyon is a popular destination for hikers and campers due to the presence of majestic water falls in the area. Supai Village is the home of approximately 400 year round residents.

Officers, Deputies and Rescuers from 8 public safety agencies worked together to evacuate more than 400 campers and residents from Supai Canyon which is located approximately 75 air miles west of the Grand Canyon Village on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. The evacuation was a direct result of significant flooding after heavy rainfall and the breach of an earthen dam in the area.

The Grand Canyon Regional Communications Center received information from Western Rivers Adventures that five unmanned rafts were observed with personal flotation devices and other supplies still onboard. National Park Service employees believed the crafts belonged to a private boating party of 16 individuals. The entire party was located uninjured and stranded on a ledge at the confluence of Havasu Creek and the Colorado River.



Members of the party were flown one at a time via a Short Haul Rescue Technique to the other side of the Colorado River where they boarded a helicopter and were flown to the Hualapai Hilltop. Those evacuees were also bussed to the American Red Cross shelter in Peach Springs, Arizona.

Public safety agencies that responded to this emergency include: Grand Canyon National Park, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Coconino County Sheriff's Office, Coconino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue, the Arizona Department of Public Safety, Coconino County Emergency Services, the Arizona National Guard and American Red Cross.

During an Emergency Operation such as this, while the rescue efforts are taking place in the field, members and volunteers of the Coconino County Emergency Services form a Joint Operation Center that coordinates information received from the Incident Command Trailer at the emergency site and disseminates it to the media. Some calls were received as far away as Germany. The Joint Operation Center also takes incoming calls from the public who may be concerned about loved ones and provides up to date information on the event and contact phone numbers for where the evacuees are being housed. This involves people coming in at any time of the day or night. Thank you for those that are committed to our community.

Golf Tournament Raises Awareness and Funds for Special Olympics



CCSO held its 2nd annual golf tournament on August 17th, 2008 at Continental Country Club here in Flagstaff.

The tournament consisted of 11 teams & 44 participants. We had a shotgun start at 1330 hours & the fun began. We took a 15 minute break to allow the weather to blow over, then back to business.

Four athletes attended the tournament, helping with set-up, registration & awards. Thank you to all of them & their families who also attended & were a great help.

The following teams took 1, 2, 3 place.

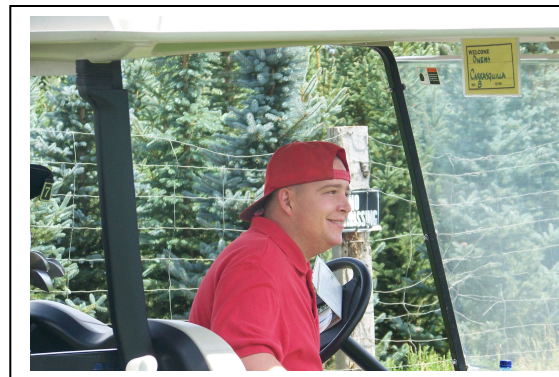
First – Team Stalnaker (Jim Stalnaker)

Second – Team Fore Show & Dough (Dan Kaiser)

Third- Team Phoenix Police Dept (Larry Prado)

The total amount raised was \$1247.42.

Thank you to everyone involved to make this year a success!



Mounted Academy Graduation

The Arizona Mounted Officers Association (AMOA) presented a 110 hour Basic Mounted Law Academy in August, here in Flagstaff. In the past several years the Coconino County Sheriff's Office has played a key part in bringing together the Mounted Units throughout the state of Arizona. They have worked diligently in putting together a training curriculum and constructing standard operating procedures that would be consistent state wide. In order to facilitate these efforts the Arizona Mounted Officers Association was created approximately 8 years ago. Currently the Coconino County Sheriffs Office holds two positions on the board; Bill Rackley, as President, and SAR Volunteer Howard Nott, who is the Search and Rescue training coordinator on the board.

The Academy is both physically and mentally draining. Riders and their mounts are challenged and instructed in how to deal with large rioting crowds, defensive tactics, basic horse care, search and rescue, firearms training, obstacle and desensitizing, horsemanship, equine psychology, equine first aide, arrest techniques, and many scenarios presented to each student.



Officer Duke Oliver, Albuquerque PD

This year's class was made up of 22 students from, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Pinal County Sheriff's Office, Albuquerque Police Department, Arizona Rangers, Scottsdale Police Department and Las Vegas Metro.



The Graduates of the 2008 Basic Mounted Law Enforcement Academy

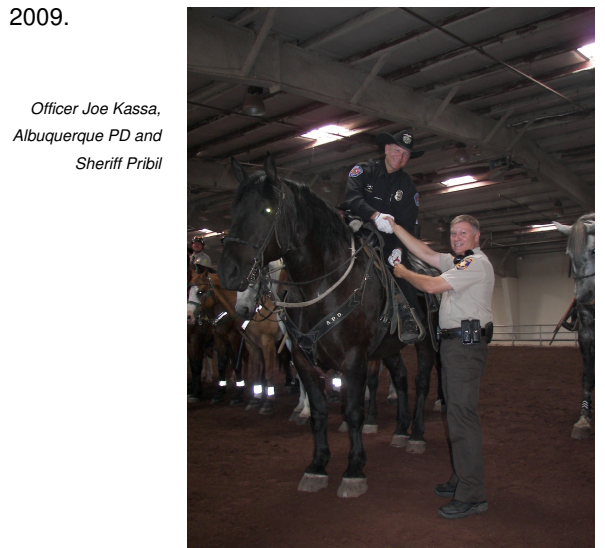
Instructors are from all over the State and as far away as London, England. We are currently using Mark Waller, a 30 year retired veteran with the Royal London Mounted Police; who now works for the Culiver Institute as instructor for Black Horse Troop, Sharon Biggs an International competitor in dressage and three day eventing as well as a free lance writer for many of the leading equestrian magazines out there today.



Officer Gary Sheldon, Officer Bill Rackley, Sharon Biggs, Mark Waller, Lt. Rob Judd, and Sgt. Joel Floyd

Most of the remaining instructors are veteran mounted officers from larger agencies within the state. The AMOA is currently in the process of recruiting instructors from Canada's Royal Mounted Police.

The AMOA and the Coconino County Sheriff's Office are now planning a 70 hour Basic Mounted Search and Rescue Academy to be held in Mormon Lake May of 2009.



*Officer Joe Kassa,
Albuquerque PD and
Sheriff Pribil*

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Review

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Service to Community

We are committed to providing responsive and effective Service to the Community. We earn and maintain the public's trust and confidence through our integrity and professionalism. Toward these goals, we devote our personnel, resources and energy.

Deputies Man the County Fair

Another year at the fair! We want to thank all of the Sheriff's Deputies that work the County Fair. After they have worked their regular shifts, some Deputies work additional hours on off duty assignments. The County Fair is one of those assignments. While citizens are enjoying the festivities, the Deputies keep the area safe. As we know, it's not always sunny and beautiful. This year was no exception. There was rain, rain, and more rain! Next year is the Fair's 60th year. I'm sure there will be even more fun!